

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 4 and 18 under 35 USC § 112, ¶ 1 is deemed moot in light of the cancellation of those claims. Likewise, the provisional obvious type double patenting rejections of Claims 16 and 17 are moot in light of the submission of the attached Terminal Disclaimer.

The rejection of Claims 3, 14, 15 and 17 under 35 USC § 112, ¶ 2 is traversed. Reconsideration is requested on grounds that the claims have been amended by non-limiting changes to correct minor and apparent discrepancies. The “and the like” language is not indefinite and would be fully understood by one skilled in the art when contextually read.

The rejections of Claims 1 and 2 as being anticipated by Cheklich under 35 USC § 102(b), of Claims 1, 3, 5 and 14 as being anticipated by Iwakiri et al under 35 USC § 102(b) and of Claims 6, 7, 12 and 13 as being obvious over Iwakiri et al under 35 USC § 103(a) are traversed. Reconsideration is requested in light of the inclusion of the subject matter of allowable Claim 8 in Claim 1 upon which Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14 are directly or indirectly dependent. Applicants note the previous indication of allowability of the subject matter of Claims 8, 11 and 15.

Accordingly, early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Serial No. 10/829,375
Amendment Dated: March 22, 2005
Reply to Office Action

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056209.52219D1).

Respectfully submitted,

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